



#4  
IDS  
OS mails logo  
42303

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Henner W. Meinhold, et al.

Serial No.: 10/087,539

Examiner: Vo, Anh T. N.

Filed: March 1, 2002

Art Unit: 2861

Title: SENSOR FOR DETECTING  
DROPLET CHARACTERISTICS

Atty. Dkt. No.: 10001.001500 (NLVS 696)

Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**Under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-98**

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56 and §§1.97-98, enclosed herewith is form PTO/SB/08 (substitute for form 1449A/PTO) listing references which may be material to the examination of this application, and with respect to which there may be a duty to disclose. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation regarding the completeness of the list of references, or that inclusion of a reference in this list is an admission that it is prior art or is pertinent to this application, or that a search has been made, or as an admission that the information listed is, or may be considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists, and shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

A copy of each listed reference is enclosed herewith, unless no such copy is required pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98(d).

This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior application Serial No. [SERIAL NUMBER], filed on [FILING DATE], and the references cited therein are hereby listed but are not required to be provided in this application under 37 CFR § 1.98(d).

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted under the section indicated below.

- 37 CFR §1.97(b).
- 37 CFR §1.97(c). If so, then either:
  - Applicant certifies pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(e) that either:
    - each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement; OR
    - no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated under 37 CFR § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.
- OR
- Applicant submits the petition fee of \$180 as set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p).
- 37 CFR § 1.97(d). If so, then both:
  - Applicant certifies pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(e) that either:
    - each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement; OR
    - no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated under 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.
- AND
- Applicant submits the petition fee of \$180 as set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p).

Consideration of the listed references and favorable action are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
Henner W. Meinhold, et al.

Dated: April 10, 2003

By: Patrick Benedict

Patrick D. Benedict  
Attorney For Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 40,909  
OKAMOTO & BENEDICTO LLP  
P.O. Box 641330  
San Jose, CA 95164  
Tel.: (408) 436-2110  
Fax: (408) 436-2114

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence, including the enclosures identified herein, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date shown below. If the Express Mail Mailing Number is filled in below, then this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service pursuant to 37 CFR 1.10.			
Signature:	<u>Patrick Benedict</u>		
Typed or Printed Name:	Patrick D. Benedicto	Dated:	April 10, 2003
Express Mail Mailing Number (optional):			